

**WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**

1. A method for extracting ATP from a biological sample,  
comprising:
  - 5 a) introducing a cationic extractant and an anionic substance; and
  - b) extracting said ATP.
2. The method of Claim 1, wherein said anionic substance is  
selected from the group consisting of sulfate ion and SDS.
3. The method of Claim 2, wherein said sulfate ion is in a form of a  
10 magnesium salt.
4. The method of Claim 3, wherein said magnesium salt is  
magnesium sulfate.
5. The method of Claim 4, wherein said magnesium sulfate is  
present in an amount of about 0.0001  $\mu\text{g}$  to about 0.4  $\mu\text{g}$ .
- 15 6. The method of Claim 2, wherein said anionic substance is SDS  
in an amount of about 0.0001  $\mu\text{g}$  to about 0.5  $\mu\text{g}$ .
7. A method for assaying for a presence of ATP in a biological  
sample, comprising:
  - 20 a) introducing a cationic extractant and an anionic substance;
  - b) extracting said ATP from said biological sample;
  - c) permitting luciferin and magnesium to react with said extracted  
ATP to form an ATP-magnesium-luciferin complex;
  - d) allowing the ATP-magnesium-luciferin complex to interact with  
luciferase, wherein light is produced; and

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e) measuring an intensity of said light, wherein a presence of light corresponds to a presence of said ATP.

8. A method for detecting an amount of ATP extracted from a biological sample, comprising:

- 5 a) introducing a cationic extractant and an anionic substance;
- b) extracting said ATP;
- c) permitting luciferin and magnesium to react with said extracted ATP to form an ATP-magnesium-luciferin complex;
- d) allowing the ATP-magnesium-luciferin complex to interact with  
10 luciferase, wherein light is produced; and
- e) measuring an intensity of said light, wherein said intensity of said light corresponds to an amount of ATP extracted.

9. A method for detecting contamination in a sample, comprising:

- 15 a) introducing a cationic extractant and an anionic substance;
- b) extracting said ATP;
- c) permitting luciferin and magnesium to react with said extracted ATP to form an ATP-magnesium-luciferin complex;
- d) allowing the ATP-magnesium-luciferin complex to interact with luciferase, wherein light is produced; and
- 20 e) measuring an intensity of said light, wherein said intensity of said light corresponds to a presence of said ATP, and wherein said presence of said ATP corresponds to contamination.

10. A reagent for extracting ATP from a biological sample, comprising a cationic extractant and an anionic substance.

11. The reagent of Claim 10, further comprising luciferin, luciferase and magnesium.

12. A test device comprising the reagent of Claim 10 dried onto a solid carrier material.

5 13. A test device comprising the reagent of claim 11 dried onto a solid carrier material.

14. The reagent of Claim 10, wherein said cationic extractant is benzalkonium chloride.

10 15. A test kit for detection of ATP in a sample, comprising one or more reagents including a reagent comprising a cationic extractant and an anionic substance.